

February 25, 1963

Dr. L. Cavalli-Sforza
18, Via Fatebenesorelle
Milan, Italy

Dear Luca:

There is again a backlog of material I mean to communicate to you separately, but I wanted to isolate one question without other distractions for the present letter.

Do you think we could persuade you to spend this summer here again?

There are some questions concerning previous plans you will want to know about. For myself, it is now rather unlikely, although perhaps in some measure dependant on your reply, whether we will in fact be attending the Symposium in Israel in connection with which we were planning to visit you in June. If you come here this summer, which would be very much my preference, we would definitely not go; in any case, we probably will not go. I have also discussed this with Walter, who has rather definitely decided to stay here at Stanford. He is anxious to spend some time with you in Milan and to attend the Genetics Congress in September. However, he would be quite happy about remaining here this summer if you were to come over here to do your work together, and would then also have at least the possible opportunity of seeing you further later on in September, say perhaps after the Congress. Since there are then the three of us, you, Walter and myself, who I believe would like to be together, the question then merely remains, where is this the best place to be. I would now suggest that we try to make this Palo Alto. There should be no problem about financial support. I believe this will be especially helped by your own travel funds; in addition to this we can do even a little better with regard to your salary support than we did on previous occasions.

As to the formal occupations that you would be committed to during the summer, these would be very limited, and I do not have in mind a regular course. It is possible that something may be set up along the lines of applications of computers to biological problems in which, towards the end of the summer, we might ask you to give two or three lectures at the most. Apart from that your work with Walter and then, especially, the opportunity for some really detailed consultation with me on the question of the distribution of birth dates are the main formal business that I have in mind. If you can accept this invitation, then I think it will be very advantageous for us to have some more intensive correspondence on the possible application of Italian records to natality analysis, and this would make our time here even more useful. We should think of our IBM 7090 computer here as an adjunct to your own facility, and if you do have some complicated computation problems that

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could be more advantageously handled on this much larger machine, then we should plan to take some advantage of it.

We hope that on this occasion you will be able to persuade Alba to come along, and perhaps one or more of the children, and I am sure we will be able to manage to have a really splendid time together, as always.

As ever,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Genetics